

ILLEGIB

~~TOP SECRET~~

Copy 8 of 14  
15 September 1964

DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW by NIMA/DOD 4/7/00

MEMORANDUM FOR: NSA/TCO

ATTENTION :

THROUGH :

25X1A

SUBJECT : Search for Uranium Mining and/or Processing  
near Ta-pan-ch'eng, China

REFERENCES : a. NSA Requirement [redacted] (C)  
b. NPIC Project N 925-64

1. This memorandum is in response to your requirement referenced above.

2. A search was made of the area within a 15 nautical mile (nm) radius of Ta-pan-ch'eng (43-21N/88-19E) for a facility/activity which is associated with uranium mining and/or processing.

3. Good quality [redacted] photography covering the search area does not reveal any activity within the search area that could be directly related to either uranium mining and/or processing.

4. Only one minor mining activity was observed within the search area, 14 nm northeast of Ta-pan-ch'eng at 43-30N/88-34E, along exposed sedimentary beds forming a small syncline. This structure is part of an inlier or fenster of older sedimentary rocks which probably was never covered well by more recent alluvial deposition. The mining operation appears to be the extraction of a dark substance, probably coal, in small quantities from thin seams found along the eroded flanks of the syncline. Mining of the material could be observed on [redacted]. The fact that no good roads or a rail spur from the Ta-pan-ch'eng--Wu-lu-mu-chi railroad serve this operation tends to indicate the operation is small and the material mined is for local consumption only.

5. Twenty-five nm northwest of Ta-pan-ch'eng, at 43-56N/87-59E, outside of the search area, is an area of more extensive mining. The mine site is situated in a stream valley a short distance into the steeply-dipped southeastern flank of the Bogdo Uula (Mtns.). Facilities include at least two mine adits, one open pit area, a possible mine dump near the adits, a possible ore crusher near the rail loading area,

25X1D

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

S-14511

~~TOP SECRET~~

[redacted]

[redacted]

and 17 unidentified buildings. The mine is served by a good road which branches off the Ch'ai-o-p'u--Wu-lu-mu-chi road. A rail spur from the Ch'ai-o-p'u--Wu-lu-mu-chi railway winds at least 10 nm back into the valley to the mine. The rail spur and branch road join the main railway and road in such a manner as to indicate that ore from this mine is probably transported into Wu-lu-mu-chi (approximately 18 nm northwest) for processing.

25X1D 6. This mine was present on [redacted] but little activity and no buildings were observed. The rail spur and branch road were present at that time; however the road did not appear well traveled at that time.

7. There is no photographic evidence that this is a uranium mine, however it cannot be negated as such.

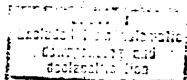
25X1D 8. Photography used in the search was from [redacted]

25X1D

25X1A

[redacted]

514511



TOP SECRET

[redacted]